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AF 12

Annex "A," Subparagraph 2b,
Political Background

THE STRUCTURE OF GOVERNMENT

I. NORTH CHINA AS A REGION

631 The term "North China" in a popular sense is understood to refer to the region through which the Yellow River flows. Under the regime of the Chinese Communists, this region has undergone a series of changes. Before the establishment of the Peking government on October 1, 1949, a government of North China was in power. Later a Department of North China Affairs was established as a part of the central government. The provinces of Hopei, Shansi, P'ing-yüan, Chahar, and Suiyuan as well as the municipalities of Peking and Tientsin were placed under the supervision of the department. At the end of 1951, the department was replaced by the North China Administrative Committee.

726 631 For the purpose of carrying out guerrilla warfare during the war of resistance against Japan, the Communists sponsored the formation of the Shansi-Hopei-Chahar Border Region with the approval of the Nationalist Government. Although other groups participated, the Communists dominated the area and later established other border region governments to expand guerrilla activity.

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II. MILITARY CONQUEST OF NORTH CHINA

726 At the time of the surrender of the Japanese army, the Communists were ready to seize control of North China. They had prepared a list of Communist mayors and governors to be appointed -- a list which Mao Tse-tung delivered to Chiang Kai-shek in the latter part of 1945. However, after the armistice the Nationalist army was flown to the coastal provinces by American military transport, and as a result the provinces along the Peking-Hankow and the Tientsin-Shanghai railway lines again came under the control of the Nationalist Government.

A part of the Communist army was sent to Manchuria, which, under the occupation of the Soviet Army, was accessible to the Chinese Communists. Other Communist armies, hidden in the border area of Shansi-Chahar-Hopei and the border area of Shansi-Hopei-Shantung-Honan, sought to destroy the military forces of the Kuomintang along the two railroad lines in the period July 1946 - October 1948. This was a time of hit-and-run strategy; battles were fought either for the purpose of reducing Kuomintang military forces or in order to isolate Kuomintang strongholds. After July 1947, the Communist armies felt that they had grown strong enough to take the offensive. They attacked

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726 the Kuomintang army at Tsinan, where the army of Governor Wang Yao-wu was besieged, and the Kuomintang forces under the command of General Fu Tso-i at Tientsin and Peking. When the isolated cities and strongholds were besieged, North China was not yet united under the Communists. But after the decisive battle of Huai-Hai, which annihilated the tank corps of Chiang Kai-shek, the Communist army attacked Kalgan, Tientsin, and Peiping. These three cities surrendered between December 24, 1948 and January 31, 1949. Thus the provinces north of the Yangtze River came under the control of the Communists. The name Peiping then was changed to Peking and the city became the capital of Communist China.

Shantung and Northern Kiangsu, the provinces on the northern edge of the Yangtze Valley, were conquered by Ch'en I, the commander of the Third Field Army; the provinces of Honan and Hupeh were conquered by Lin Piao. These provinces were assigned to the regional governments of East China and Central-South China.

635 ## III. THE GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE OF THE PROVINCES IN THE PRE-CONSTITUTION STAGE

A. The Governmental Structure of Hopei and Shansi

The governmental structure of the